The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has been contacting operators of municipal and animal waste systems to advise them of precautions to take during hurricane season. DENR's Land Quality Section has activated its emergency response mode statewide, with all field personnel on alert in case of a dam emergency. Field staff from other agencies, including the Division of Water Quality, are on standby.

The Department of Transportation has crews ready to respond to road washouts, set up detours and clear away debris. For highway conditions, visit http://www.ncsmartlink.org and click on "Real-Time Travel Info" or call 1-877-DOT4YOU starting Friday at 8 a.m.

In addition to monitoring local weather reports, citizens should prepare by assembling or updating their emergency supply kits. Having emergency kits ready will make evacuation and recovery easier. For a list of items suggested for an emergency kit, go to the Department of Crime Control's web site at http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/ and click on "Emergency Info" and then "Supplies Checklist."

For flood safety information go to CCPS' web site at http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/ and click on "Divisions," "Emergency Management," and "Severe Weather."

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